



Horse teacher Ben Quinters demonstrates how to come to terms with a colt during the recent "Celebration

of the Horse," which was held in Heber Valley last Saturday at the local fairgrounds.

Celebration of the Horse a Success

23 July 1987 wave

Rack on! A crowd of up to about 800 spectators, mostly from the Wasatch Front, learned what "rack on" means at the first Celebration of the Horse.

Spectators saw things they had never seen before and enjoyed a day of horse highlights at the Wasatch County Fairgrounds. Star performers, both equine and human, came from all over the intermountain west to celebrate the horse. Aspects of the horse rarely seen in our area, as well as events which are more familiar, were shown in a continuous flow of exciting performances. The Heber Valley Horse Association, sponsor of the Celebration of the Horse, earned the praise of both spectators and exhibitors for their organization of this first-time event.

Highlights of the afternoon included actor William DeVane entertaining the audience with a free wheeling demonstration of polo, a sport not usually seen in our area. A Parade of Breeds gave spectators a chance to see fine horses representing both well-known and less familiar breeds. From the tiny Shetland to the largest draft horse, the history and description of each breed was given as each animal was paraded. The crowds were delighted by the high stepping park saddle and park harness performances by champion Morgans, Tennessee

walkers and saddlebreds. These three types each presented their breed with dramatic 30-minute displays. John Buck Field, well known saddlebred trainer, provided a rare treat on his five-gaited show horse when the announcer said "rack on!" Lucky Dorrity gave a 30-minute "clinic" on reining, showing how to start a young horse and then giving a spectacular exhibition of a finished reining horse.

Wasatch County young people gave good demonstrations of rodeo events and our own royalty showed the crowd what goes into the making of a rodeo queen. Excellent local jumping talent demonstrated the skills of hunters and jumpers. The moment of stunned silence at the finale of Margo Gogan's Prix St. George ballet with her horse, Merano, expressed the admiration of those watching for the art of dressage.

Ben Quinters and Kim Cutler, students of Ray Hunt, demonstrated colt training, starting and riding the colt the same day. Dave Gobel made horse shoes. Doctors Bob Erikson and Bruce Williams gave informative demonstrations of vet care. Horsemen learned how to braid manes, groom for showing, care for tack and tie useful knots. There were a variety of commercial and promotional booths that sold and displayed the latest in horse pro-

ducts and informed the public about many aspects of the horse industry.

Overall, it was a full day for horse enthusiasts with demonstrations of horse skills, interesting booth displays and professional quality performances all going on at the same time. The Heber Valley Horse Association looks forward to a bigger and better second annual Celebration of the Horse in 1988.

County Rodeo

Friday night, August 7, 1987, has been designated as family night at the Wasatch County Rodeo. Discount tickets will be available at Day's Market, Radio Shack and Farmer Jack beginning Monday, July 27. These tickets are pre-sale only and no discount tickets will be sold after 6:00 p.m., Friday, August 7. Discount prices are \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children.

According to Wilson Young, chairman of this year's rodeo, Friday night will feature the famous Silver Spurs Riding Club from Salt Lake City, a specialty roman riding act, lady barrel races and lady's breakaway roping. Bring your entire family and enjoy the excitement of the rodeo.

Bike Aid

Over July 4 weekend members of the Heber Lions Club and the Citizens' Opportunity Group (COG) hosted an enthusiastic group of cross country cyclists traveling under the name of Bike-aid. The local volunteers fed the 40 riders dinner on the 4th, and breakfast on the 5th. Wasatch County provided sleeping accommodations under the new livestock pavillion at the County Fairgrounds.

The purpose of the second annual Bike-aid cross country ride is to generate support for grassroots solutions to global poverty. These cyclists and hundreds of volunteers work to support self-help efforts around the world. The riders started from six Western and Southern cities: Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Austin. The group touring through Heber left San Francisco on June 17. All routes will join in a Congressional reception in Wash-

Wasatch Mtn. State Park

One day, after straightening up a room, I stumbled across an old framed picture. I wiped off the dust and my curiosity set in. I read the type underneath the photograph. It was a dedicatory prayer for Wasatch Mountain State Park on May 4, 1968. I continued to read the words and they became of great interest. I polished the glass and sat down to take a closer look. Many hopes and concerns for public land were summed up in the prayer.

The prayer, written by Vasco M. Tanner, former board member, Utah Division of Parks and Recreation, expressed thanks for the abundant and beautiful land in the park. He described it as "a terrain free from the hustle and bustle of metropolitan life, the clatter of transportation and human noises." He went on to say that there are "too few areas the likes of this one which is to be preserved and handed on to members of a rapidly increasing population."

I had to wonder if our park was different at the time this prayer was written. Then the rutted roads, scarred meadows and hillsides, ATVs and snowmobiles entered my mind. I thought about the new ideas being proposed for the future (for example, helicopter hiking). Just then the vision that this prayer had created in my mind diminished.

I read on... Vasco Tanner looked with optimism into the future. He visualized the park to be free from "the problems of traffic, congestion, pollution of air due to the thousands of cars which frequent parks and forests." Was he thinking about the arms of development that were reach-

ing out from every direction surrounding the vacant land and swallowing it little by little?

He saw the purpose of parks as a place to be appreciated and enjoyed. He wrote, "The green coolness of this park should bring forth from the visitors a worshipful attitude and return them to the valleys below in a rested and renewed condition... The fauna and flora may be enjoyed as visitors hike over the park on trails and marked paths." I wondered with the new concepts of recreation (ATVs, helicopters, etc.), if the fauna could be enjoyed. Are we loosing our wildlife habitat to machines?

Vasco M. Tanner surely had a dream for our park. Is the philosophy changing? Some cities and businesses have petitioned for development of park land because they may feel this could improve the economy. Some think park land is useless because it is being "tied up." As Vasco Tanner said, parks should be "centers of unique natural history and beauty. Land managers are fighting to save the lands before they are lost. President Theodore Roosevelt once said, "The time has come to inquire seriously what will happen when our forests are gone... When the soils shall have been still further impoverished... These questions do not relate only to the next century or the next generation. One distinguishing characteristic of really civilized men is foresight; ... and, if we do not exercise the foresight, dark will be the future."

I'm with Vasco Tanner, he had great expectations for the park. Can his dreams be realized?



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